



**ARMY MEDICINE**  
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# **US Army Patient Safety Center**

## **Humpty Dumpty Fall Assessment Tool**

**Quality Management Division  
HQ, US Army Medical Command  
Fort Sam Houston, TX**

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# Background

- All patients regardless of age are at an increased risk for falling in a hospital setting. Fall and injury prevention continues to be a considerable challenge across the care continuum.
  - Injuries from falls are the 6<sup>th</sup> most commonly reported sentinel event
  - MEDCOM 2010 data revealed 599 inpatient falls; 69 falls resulted in harm



# Purpose

- To standardize endorsed evidence based fall risk assessment tools across all Army Medical Treatment Facilities (MTFs) that provide inpatient nursing care in the Electronic Medical Record (Essentris).
  - In collaboration with the Patient Caring Touch initiative
  - Implementation of tools recommended by the Falls Working Group (Nov 2009) and purchased by the MEDCOM Patient Safety Center



# Goal

- Decrease patient fall events and harmful injuries
- Decrease variation in assessment, interventions, procedures and documentation of falls risk and increase prevention of falls across Army MTFs.



# The Humpty Dumpty Pediatric Fall Risk Assessment Tool

- Assesses seven parameters for an accumulative score.
- 3 tools available as part of tool kit
  - Inpatient
  - Outpatient
  - Emergency Department
- Parental Education in both English and Spanish
- Toolkits provided to each MTF PSM



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# Humpty Dumpty Falls Assessment Tool (Inpatient)

This note is built with choice list exactly as in the  
paper form



Note Time: 1345 30 Apr 2010  
Last Store At: N/A

Type: Std Test 2  
Last Stored By: (Created)

Topic: N/A  
Mode: Edit

### HUMPTY DUMPTY FALL ASSESSMENT TOOL

Parameter	Criteria	Score
AGE	<div><div></div><div>Less than 3 years old 4</div><div>3 to less than 7 years old 3</div><div>7 to less than 13 years old 2</div><div>13 years and above 1</div></div>	<input type="text"/>
GENDER	<div><div></div></div>	<input type="text"/>
DIAGNOSIS	<div><div></div></div>	<input type="text"/>
COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENTS	<div><div></div></div>	<input type="text"/>
ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS	<div><div></div></div>	<input type="text"/>
RESPONSE TO SURGERY/SEDATION/ANESTHESIA	<div><div></div></div>	<input type="text"/>
MEDICATION USAGE	<div><div></div></div>	<input type="text"/>
Total Score		<input type="text"/>

A piped choice list is used so Essentris can calculate the total score. In the example, the value can be seen on the right side of the list (i.e. "Less than 3 years old" = 4 points)

Low Risk Score 7-11  
High Risk Score 12 and Above

☐ Patient is at Low Fall Risk Score 7-11

☐ Patient is at High Fall Risk Score 12 and above

Select risk category as appropriate



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### HUMPTY DUMPTY FALL ASSESSMENT TOOL

Parameter	Criteria	Score
AGE	3 to less than 7 years old	3
GENDER	Male	2
DIAGNOSIS	Alterations in Oxygenation (Respiratory Diagnosis, Dehydration, Anemia, Anorexia)	3
COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENTS	Forgets Limitations	2
ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS	Patient Placed in Bed	2
RESPONSE TO SURGERY/SEDATION/ANESTHESIA	More than 48 hours/None	1
MEDICATION USAGE	One of the Medications	2
Total Score		15

Score is totaled  
as criteria is  
selected.

Low Risk Score 7-11  
High Risk Score 12 and Above

☐ Patient is at Low Fall Risk Score 7-11

☒ Patient is at High Fall Risk Score 12 and above

#### High Risk Standard Protocol

- ☐ Identify patient with a "humpty dumpty sticker" on the patient, in the bed and in patient chart
- ☐ Educate patient/parents of falls protocol precautions
- ☐ Check patient minimum every 1 hour
- ☐ Accompany patient with ambulation
- ☐ Developmentally place patient in appropriate bed
- ☐ Consider moving patient closer to nurses' station
- ☐ Assess need for 1:1 supervision
- ☐ Evaluate medication administration times
- ☐ Remove all unused equipment out of the room
- ☐ Protective barriers to close off spaces, gaps in the bed
- ☐ Keep door open at all times unless specified isolation precautions are in use
- ☐ Keep bed in the lowest, unless patient is directly attended
- ☐ Document in nursing narrative teaching and plan of care

After score is determined,  
the clinician must select  
risk level for relevant  
protocol to appear. This  
example shows High Risk  
Standard Protocol.





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### HUMPTY DUMPTY FALL ASSESSMENT TOOL

Parameter	Criteria	Score
AGE	13 years and above	1
GENDER	Female	1
DIAGNOSIS	Other Diagnosis	1
COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENTS	Oriented to own ability	1
ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS	Patient Placed in Bed	2
RESPONSE TO SURGERY/SEDATION/ANESTHESIA	Within 48 hours	2
MEDICATION USAGE	Other Medications/None	1
Total Score		9

Low Risk Score 7-11  
High Risk Score 12 and Above

☒ Patient is at Low Fall Risk Score 7-11

☐ Patient is at High Fall Risk Score 12 and above

#### Low Risk Standard Protocol

- ☐ Orientation to room
- ☐ Bed in low position, brakes on
- ☐ Side rails x 2 or 4 up, assess large gaps, such that a patient could get extremity or other body part entrapped, safety procedures
- ☐ Use of non-skid footwear for ambulating patients, use of appropriate size clothing to prevent risk of tripping
- ☐ Assess eliminations need, assist as needed
- ☐ Call light is within reach, educate patient/family on its functionality
- ☐ Environment clear of unused equipment, furniture's in place, clear of hazards
- ☐ Assess for adequate lighting, leave nightlight on
- ☐ Patient and family education available to parents and patient
- ☐ Document fall prevention teaching and include in plan of care

This example shows  
Low Risk Standard  
Protocol.



# Nursing Fall Prevention CPG

- In collaboration with the Patient Touch System of Care, the clinical practice guideline on nursing care to support this initiative can be found at:  
<https://www.qmo.amedd.army.mil/NurseCPG/NurseCPG.html>
- Additional tools to support fall prevention can be accessed through Mosby's On-line.